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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AIRGRAM

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : CINCSO FOR POLAD, Amembassies TEGUCIGALPA, SAN SALVADOR, MANAGUA, SAN JOSE, DOD

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
AMERICAN AFFAIRS
AUG 14 2 41 PM '67
ANALYSIS BRANCH
DATE: Aug 12, 67
NAN 8/16
RS/17

FROM : Amembassy GUATEMALA

SUBJECT : Weekly Internal Security Report: August 4- August 10, 1967

REF : 1223 Just

1. It was a fairly quiet week and followed the same general pattern of previous weeks. There were only a few scattered incidents which looked as if they could be attributed to guerrillas and some reduction of successful actions on the part of the security forces.
2. The usually quiet Indian highlands area was the site of two incidents. In Quezaltenango PR leader Carlos Balaños Vargas, until very recently the PR Secretary General for the area, was shot and killed August 4. And in Huehuetenango, an armed band, reportedly accompanied by several women, attacked a police station August 3. The attack was repelled but not before one policeman and, judging from blood at the scene, at least one of the attackers were wounded. The motives behind both attacks are unknown. It is suspected those attacking the police station were seeking arms.
3. Also of interest is the confusion Col. Arana caused by a statement he made to the press August 5. He said that there was evidence that guerrilla chief César Montes and Mario Botzoc Pércules may have been killed in the July 22 Army/guerrilla clash in Jones, Zacapa, and may be among the three still unrecovered and unidentified bodies at the bottom of a deep gully into which they fell.
4. It looks as if Col. Arana may have overstepped his bounds, however. Both the Army Public Relations Secretary and the FAR denied the story.

Enclosure

List of Incidents

FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by: POL:WNewlin:cam:8-11-67

Clearances: POL1:JWilson

DATE: Lt. Col. Hacker

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/SDC/MR	
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Enclosure

LIST OF INCIDENTS

- Aug. 3 - Sub-station of National Police attacked by armed group of about 10 people including woman according to reports in Huehuetenango. At least one policeman wounded and from blood spots found, several of the attackers wounded also. Group thought to have been after arms.
- 4 - Bomb exploded at unoccupied Zone 1 house. Damage superficial. No political motive known.
- PR leader shot by unknown men in Quezaltenango. He was Carlos Balaños Vargas, administrator of National Finca "Mercedes." He was PR Secretary General in Quezaltenango.
- 6 - Former chauffeur for Honduran Ambassador and two companions kidnapped by armed men near his Zone 5 house according to press. Taken were Gustavo Adolfo Quiñónez, a Honduran, who had been in Guatemala 4 years, and two companions known only as Larry and Marcelo. No political motive known.
- 7 - Two bodies found dead of gunshot wounds in Department of Escuintla on road to Palín. Identified as Mariano Cordoza Garcia and Aroche Morataya who had been kidnapped August 6. No political motive known.
- Two bodies-shot to death - found in Department of Zacapa. One, identified as Tulio Morales Franco, was found in Santa Lucia Aguas Caliente. He had been kidnapped two days previously from his house. The other, identified as Emilio Lima Valenzuela, was found in Santa Catarina Pinula. From a paper found on his body, police speculate his death was political. No motives known.
- 9 - Judicial policeman shot and killed by 2 unknown men on a motorcycle in Zone 3. He was Aníbal Hermosilla Marroquin. ~~No political motive known~~ Minister of Government stated motives were personal, not political.
- 9 - Bomb caused superficial damage at Zone 1 house of judge, Lic. Aliredo Enrique Figueroa Tobar.

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(The Public Relations Secretary simply said the evidence was inconclusive.) There are also rumors that Arana got his wrist slapped by the Army high command for indiscretion. It is still not known who is dead in the gully and, of course, the longer the lapse before identification is attempted, the harder it will be.

5. Other incidents included a kidnapping, 2 bombs, and the discovery of 4 more assassinated bodies. (See enclosure for list of incidents.)

6. Comment: There is little apparent change in the atmosphere from last week. The guerrillas will probably continue to await the results (if any) of the LASO conference before breaking cover, and while they remain holed up, it is hard for the security forces to flush and catch them.

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